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is preferred in forges. Take the hands from the bellows, and it begins to go out; its consumption is thus husbanded, while the workman is at the anvil.

Mr. Proust also observes, that heath-charcoal, or that of its roots has the same property, and ceases to burn as soon as the bellows ceases to blow.

Proceeding upon the supposition that azote, which is contained in so many kinds of charcoal, might cause that incumbustibility, that characterises some of them; Mr. Proust treated several of them with potash, to observe what effect this would have upon their combustibility, in case that principle should not be found in them.

Chesnut-wood charcoal, treated first with potash and then with a dilute acid, in order to cleanse it from a quantity of soluble ashes, became more combustible than before; for instead of requiring twenty-six seconds, it took no more than sixteen to detonate with five parts of saltpetre. No traces of prussic acid could be discovered in the ley.

Charcoal of heath also became improved by this mode of treatment.

Indigo charcoal yielded a considerable quantity of prussiate: the residuum was not observed to have required an increase of combustibility.

Two successive operations upon coal formed from some excellent coal, dug at Villa nueva del Rio, near Seville, caused a diminution of its combustibility. The first ley contained prussiate.

Some fine anthracite, which burned with great difficulty without any flame or odorous vapour, yielded evident traces of prussic acid. It is probable therefore that it derived its origin from fossil coal. This anthracite was found very near the monastery of Harbas, at a little distance

from the pass which leads to Soiedo through the beautiful valley of Campomanes.

Cases illustrating the effects of Oil of Turpentine in the expelling the tape worm, by John Cookly Lettsom, M.D. and president of the Medical Society.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi; 307.

Dr. Lettsom was consulted in Sep. 1809, by a gentleman 35 years of age on account of an uneasiness in the abdomen, with dyspepsia, which were supposed to originate from tænia, or tape worm, as small portions of it had occasionally been evacuated downwards.

The doctor prescribed a course of male fern, with occasional cathartics, as recommended by madame Nonflet. In this plan the gentleman persevered for the space of three months; in which period he discharged, at two different times, about eight yards of the tænia. In April, 1810, he again applied to the doctor, in consequence of labouring under his former complaints; adding, that he imagined, from the long use of the plant recommended, his pains, and particularly the dyspepsia and general debility, had increased. The doctor then ordered the *oleum terebinthinæ rectificatum*, in a dose of nine drachms by weight, and after it a little honey to remove the heat and unpleasant taste it might occasion. In a week after taking the oil the patient informed the doctor, that in a few hours after taking this dose, more than four yards of the tænia were discharged, at the second motion, and also a quantity of matter, resembling the substance of the skins of the tænia. The medicine produced little or no pain, and at least much less than the purgative he had taken after the use of the male fern. The subsequent

motions contained no tœnia, nor any of the substance before mentioned. He experienced no pain or heat in the urinary passages, though the urine continued to impart a scent of turpentine for three or four days. The patient has since remained in perfect health, enjoying a degree of comfort, to which he had been a stranger for the preceding half year. He also said that the medicine, while swallowing, occasioned less heat than the same quantity of brandy, or other spirit; and that the taste, and heat, which it caused, were soon removed by the honey.

From this, and other instances, the doctor is induced to conclude, that the best method of taking the oil, is without any admixture: that the dose of nine drachms occasions very little inconvenience: and that this quantity, perhaps owing to its quick purgative effect, excites no irritation in the urinary passages, although it imparts its peculiar smell to the urine.

The doctor prefers giving the medicine uncombined, in which state it is not attended with any particular inconvenience; and states, that there is no certain method of ascertaining the presence of the tœnia but by actual discharge of portions of the worm itself, as the pains and heaviness of the abdomen, the dyspœnia and emaciation which the worm occasions, may also be produced by other causes.

In the number of the Philosophical Magazine, which follows that from which the foregoing account is extracted, several other cases are related, where the oil of turpentine has been administered for worms; in most of which it succeeded so well, as to leave little doubt of its being very superior to most medicines hitherto used for the same purpose.

De Luc's electric column.

The small bells connected with the electric column invented by Mr. De Luc, which have been frequently before noticed in this publication, were perceived to cease ringing for about ten minutes on the 4th of September; then (the apparatus remaining untouched,) to begin again to ring by intervals, stopping perhaps half a second or more, at a time: they stopped for several days after this, and began again, and at other times stopped for hours: On the 18th of November, they were removed from the column, not having been heard that morning.

On purifying olive oil for the pivots of chronometers, by M. Ez. Walker.

Phil. Mag. xxxvi; 372.

Nothing has been found to decrease the friction in time-keepers so well as oil. But it has long been known that its use in marine chronometers is attended with very bad consequences; for it gradually loses its fluidity during a long voyage, and adheres to the machine; by which all regularity in its performance is prevented. These considerations led Mr. Walker in 1799, to make experiments of methods to improve the quality of oil for this purpose; in which he succeeded so as to separate a thick mucilaginous matter from even the best oil, which mucilage was opaque and whitish, heavier than oil, but lighter than water. The oil from which the mucilage has been taken is exceedingly transparent in a fluid state, but when frozen appears much whiter than common oil exposed to the same degree of cold.

About ten years ago Mr. Walker sent some of this oil to Mr. Barraud, requesting him to make trial of it, and in March 1802, Mr. B. informed him "that he had just